

**Minutes 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2008**  
**LYDIARD MILLICENT PARISH COUNCIL**

**Present:** Cllrs J Bennett (Vice Chair), J Holloway, A Pfleger, N Smith, K Thomas.

- 1. Apologies for absence.** Cllrs: T Pepperall, B Baker, M Groom, A Harris, S Welch.
- 2. Housekeeping.** Emergency procedures were advised to 9 Members of the public and 5 councillors.
- 3. Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 29<sup>th</sup> May 2008.** Amended on the Income and Expenditure page year ended 31.3.07:  
Income: add £1,181.14 against Bank Interest.  
Expenditure: add £35 to Millennium map frames.  
The totals were correct, merely that the input system had not added the figures to the list.  
The minutes were then signed as a true record.
- 4. Minutes of full meeting 5<sup>th</sup> June 2008.**  
Were amended to show that S Welch had attended, S Burley had been added twice. The minutes were then signed as a true record.

**5. Police Report.**

PCSO Andy Singfield attended the meeting where he noted that the police were aware that the Parish Hall Union Flag had been stolen, criminal damage had been reported on the JCH and the Parish Hall, and solar lights taken from a local garden. This pattern of petty criminal damage has also been seen in other villages in the area; some of which has been caused by school leavers getting a little carried away with their celebrations. It was also reported that a group of 'travellers' had been seen taking metal. One such incident occurred where they had turned off a generator and stripped the copper wire from the cables and left before police and Electricity staff could arrive on the scene. Some random speed checks had taken place in the village recently and whilst there had not been many speeders, many of those caught were local residents.

Cllr Bennett mentioned that he had been advised that the police had obtained a set of Vehicle Activated Speed signs and were moving the signs around the area. He had asked the police to set up the temporary VAS signs in the village on the Lydiard Green/Beeches straight, at the top of Stone Lane and between Washpool Bridge and Common Platt. Cllr Smith requested that we now re-apply for permanent VASs and ask if WCC had solid planning reasons for denying our previous request.

**6. County Councillor's report and questions arising,**

Cllr Groom had sent a short report advising that the Recommendations of the Access Task Group (finalising in detail how residents will access the various new services and locations of the Wiltshire Council) goes to the joint overview and scrutiny transition board shortly. Also, Wiltshire Police Authority had received 85 applications for positions of three independent members and interviews were taking place.

**7. District Councillor's report and questions arising.** Cllr. Groom reported that NWDC officers had not considered any of the proposed gypsy sites appropriate.

**8. Parishioner's Question Time.**

**a.** An update of sewerage problems in Chestnut Springs was requested.

**Response:** There was nothing to report.

**b.** It was reported that Mr Titcombe, a resident of Greenhill, has been doing an excellent job cutting the grass verges along most of Greenhill; however, other residents need to be encouraged to keep their frontages cut.

**Response.** Residents who do not cut their frontage would be encouraged to do so.

**c.** A blocked drain at 'Gypsy corner' (where vehicles cut across the verge) on Greenhill, was reported to the Council.

**Response.** Cllr Bennett would meet the new WCC Area Highways Engineer Sally Barnett and discuss the matter on site with her.

**d.** It was reported that the hedge between the Beeches and Manor Farm had been cut by WCC.

**Response.** The WCC action was noted with surprise as WCC normally insist the landowners are responsible for cutting their hedges, also that the hedge had been cut during the bird-nesting season.

**e.** The edge of the wall in front of Honeywood Lodge, by the school bus stop is full of nettles.

**Response.** The Parish Steward would be tasked to attend to the nettles etc..

#### **9. Councillors' reports of Parishioners' queries.**

**a.** A letter has been sent to a resident of Chestnut Springs requesting that an overgrown hedge be cut back as a resident in a wheelchair had cut her leg on the vegetation whilst travelling along the path.

**b.** The Council has again been asked about fitting a ramp to be to the Bury Field to Chestnut Springs footpath.

**Response.** It was considered that councillors might be able devise a local solution rather than asking WCC to install a drop kerb (probably at LMPC expense) Cllr Smith offered to look at the situation and report back.

**c.** Some Fly posting through village had been efficiently dealt with by Cllr Holloway.

**10. Clerks Report on matters brought to her attention.** On behalf of the Clerk, the Vice Chairman requested 22 extra hours, during the 6 weeks of school holidays, to bring the administration and filing system up to date. Cost will be £182, this was agreed by the Councillors.

#### **11. Report on matters arising from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008 not on the main agenda.**

Para 8a – The laurel has been cut.

Para 8c – Wiltshire Highways had been contacted and asked about their drain clearance and maintenance programme for the village.

Para 8e - Speeding Washpool/Common Platt, a speed check (using detector strips across the road) is not normally carried out until 6 months after the date of implementation of new speed limits, which was the 18<sup>th</sup> of April this year. The Safety Camera Partnership have agreed, subject to funds being available, to install the equipment October. The results hopefully will provide hard evidence to justify traffic calming measures on this road.

9a – Pot Holes have been filled in at Common Platt.

11c – Broken Telephone box has been reported.

A list of outstanding highway issues had been sent by the Vice Chairman to Sally Barnett the new Highways Area Manager for discussion during her forthcoming meeting with the Vice Chairman

#### **12. Planning Applications**

**08/01418/COU** The Lodge, Church Place. Change of use from residential to meeting room and storage for use by church. Demolish and rebuild lean-to plus alterations to doors and internal layout. **Supported.** For the benefit of the community.

**08/00972/FUL** Greens End, Lydiard Green. Erection of agricultural building for agricultural/horticultural use. **Opposed.** We are advised by NWDC Planners that the applicant wishes to store tractor and equipment/tools for use on land for animals and maintenance; however, the council was uncomfortable with the size and volume of the building. Whilst this location was in the past a small holding, it seemed inconceivable that a small holding should need a barn of this size. Councillors considered that if the barn were to be used to store large equipment for work elsewhere, it could cause traffic problems if the stored equipment needed to be taken off site on a regular basis.

**08/01439/FUL** Single Storey Side & Rear Extension at 20 Greenhill. **No adverse comments.**

**08/01203/FUL** Extension to roof to provide loft conversion including dormer windows to front; utility room link, revised conservatory and alterations to 6 Greenhill. **No adverse comments.**

**08/01507/TCA** Fell leylandii cypress hedge at Church Farm, Lydiard Millicent. **No adverse comments.**

**NWDC Amended plans**

**08/00842/COU** Lydiard Towers, 3 Lydiard Green Change of use of agricultural land to garden.  
Object as before.

**NWDC Planning approved**

**08/00778/FUL** 6 The Crescent Common Platt. Erection of side extension to enlarge garage.  
Enlargement of roof and provision of six dormers and alterations.

**08/00964/FUL** 5 Park View Drive. Single storey extension to rear, side and front.

**NWDC Planning refused**

Swindon Caravan Centre, Greatfield. Change of use of agricultural land to open storage/display.

**08/01058/FUL** 11 Greenhill, Purton. Two Storey Extension & Garage.

**08/00927/S73A** Barretts Yard, Stone Lane. Variation on conditions 3,5 & 7.

**BT – Plans to close Telephone boxes**

NWDC advised that BT propose to remove telephone boxes in Greenhill and Greatfield. The council was advised that conservation orders may have been made on these in the past; this information would be passed to NWDC/BT for their guidance. In the interim, any comments should be passed to the Clerk as soon as possible.

**13. Accounts**

<b>Expenditure:</b>		£'s (*incl. VAT)
Mrs R Leckie	Wages	249.75
Mrs R Leckie	Expenses	81.01
L.M.P.H.	Hire of Hall for meeting	40.00
Inside Out	Groundsman's fee	487.33
Mr J Bennett	Print 50 walking guides (In Touch Services)	44.75
Mr J Bennett	Timpson Key cutting for Storeshed JCH	15.00
S.L.C.Annual Subscription	70.00	
Auditing Solutions Ltd	Internal audit completed 16.6.08	353.12
Mr J Frost	Repairs to JCH	286.70
Transfer to B of I		5,000.00

The above accounts were proposed by Cllr Holloway and seconded by Cllr Pflieger there were no objections.

**Income during June 2008**

There was no income received during June.

**14. Internal Audit report.**

Had been received and sent to Cllrs by email. The report contained no adverse comments regarding the Councils financial activities. It also included a long draft set of risk assessments which will be considered at the August meeting.

**15. Formally Approve 2007/8 Accounts.**

The accounts were approved in principle, subject to the Clerk managing to get the Accounting Software to insert the two missing figures input into the Income and Expenditure Accounts sheet (See para. 3 above).

**16. External Audit.** Chairman signed Section 1 & 2 of the annual return after reading out the statement of assurance.

### **17. Committee Reports:**

Recreation Field – Shaw FC had advised Cllr Bennett that annual returns to the FA were outstanding and he awaited further information from the FA as to what was required.

JCH - Graffiti has been sprayed on the rear of the clubhouse and the lights have been broken in the Boules area. The graffiti and damage have been reported to the police. The Groundsman is seeking advice from Swindon Borough Council on graffiti removal and will advise the Vice Chairman if he is able to undertake the task and an estimated cost for which council approval will be sought. Vice Chairman will arrange repair of lights with Mr J Frost. The JCH roof camera has been directed to the area in front of the store; Cllr Holloway offered to try and re-align the camera.

Play Area was reported as good. Cllr Thomas had reported at the previous month, the Clerk had not made a note of it.

Cemetery was reported as good.

**18. Allotments.** The Chairman had researched the provision and funding of allotments by local government and could find no source of money to purchase land for allotments. Without suitable land then the Parish Council could not proceed with the provision of allotments. Owners of suitable land in the parish were encouraged to contact the Clerk or councillors. Cllr Holloway floated the idea of a monthly produce sale/exchange of local goods, possibly at the Parish Hall. Cllr Smith to consider this idea with the Hall committee.

**19. Christmas tree.** Cllr. Pflieger had yet to receive a quote for the electrical work to install a permanent fixture for a Christmas Tree outside the Parish Hall.

**20. Update on Closure of old cemetery.** Letter received from Ministry of Justice dated 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Ten days from the date of the letter a closure notice will be sought from The Privy Council Office. A notice will then be sent and will be displayed on the Church door for a minimum of a month before this will become final.

### **21. Update on risk assessment of Butts Pond/Cemetery.**

A letter has been sent the Diocesan Land Agents regarding the Parish Council's position regarding The Butts Pond including a request for an additional warning sign; a response is awaited.

A Risk Assessment for the new Cemetery has still to be completed.

**22. Parish Steward's next visit 15/16<sup>th</sup> July 2008** Our Parish Steward has changed, we now have Shane.

### **22. Correspondence.**

WALC Newsletter.

Travel scheme application forms – see Clerk.

WCC Parish Steward programme summer 2008.

**Dates of next meeting 7<sup>th</sup> August 2008**

**The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.**